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FREE

## Eastern Neighborhood Rezoning Represents Opportunities and Obstacles

By Alison Fromme  
Special to the Neighborhood Environmental Newswire

San Francisco is growing but its land area, obviously, is not. As a result, there's increasing pressure to make the best use of available space. The challenge is, what constitutes "best" depends on who you are, where you live, and what economic interest you represent.

The Bayview-Hunters Point, Mission, Potrero, and South-of-Market communities are ground zero for efforts to determine how best to direct new development. Since 1998, neighborhood activists, City planners, developers, and others have been hammering out a master vision for future development known as the Eastern Neighborhoods Plan.

The Plan is supposed to provide a systematic guide for development; a way of dissuading piecemeal projects that don't meet the neighborhoods' needs. However, over the past seven years, while various stakeholders grappled with how best to accommodate growth, a significant number of development projects have been approved — more than 1,000 rental or condominium units are currently being constructed on or adjacent to Potrero Hill alone.

"Basic land use decisions have to be made, and this issue is becoming more and more urgent," said Amit Ghosh, San Francisco's Chief of Comprehensive Planning. "Right now, everything is uncertain, and that's not a good way to be."

Optimists such as Potrero Hill resident David Kerr believe that new development will bring improved infrastructure, expanded open space, job growth, affordable housing, and other valuable enhancements. "I'm very excited about more residential development in and near Potrero Hill because I believe density creates more opportunity for transit and nice quality of life," Kerr said. "I've been opposed to those who really want to limit new development. I don't think underused or empty warehouses contribute more than new housing and businesses will. And I think more people living here will add vitality to the existing businesses and street culture."

But there are obstacles to achieving Kerr's vision. "We're known throughout the world for our diverse neighborhoods, mixture of demographics and incomes, neighborhood owned stores, views and vistas. All that is set to be lost without guidance from the Planning Department. Not only don't I see that guidance, I see

## Pier 70 Port Commission Approves First Step Towards Master Plan

By David Beaupre and Port Staff

The Port Commission approved on February 14 a resolution that will allow the staff to retain a Historic Preservation consultant team to survey the historic resources and develop preservation options

for the Pier 70 area at the eastern foot of Potrero Hill, adjacent to Dogpatch. This is the first step in developing a Master Plan for the area. The Port will also retain an Economic and Planning consulting team to assist in the Master Planning

effort to assess the environmental clean up and infrastructure needs to support the Master Plan development concept.

Pier 70 is a rare site, rich in maritime history and resources, which offers unique  
(Continued on Page 6)

## Unusual Performance at Mondavi Art Center



Potrero Hill resident Lonnie Ford narrates performance

When a young man with physical disabilities decided to write about his life he recorded a litany of "Fears of his Life." The young man, Michael Bernard Loggins, now 45, is physically disabled — but not too off-centered to write about his young life. He has been involved since 1983 with Creativity Explored, a program for persons encumbered with a variety of problems. "Fears of Your Life" inspired dancer Kim Epifano to fashion a dance piece around and about his "fears," which was produced in February for her Masters in Fine Arts at the Mondavi Center for the Arts at U.C. Davis, California.

(continued on Page 19)

instead a land grab that includes densities and heights that conflict with common sense urban planning concepts," said Potrero Hill resident Kepa Askenasy.

The Eastern Neighborhood Plan represents a giant step forward, according to Joe Boss, the Potrero Hill Boosters Neighborhood Association's recording secretary. "Over the past eight years there has been a lot of development in the industrially zoned land, with no effective way of ending up with a complete neighborhood. Without planning and the identification of the impacts and fees to pay for those impacts, we will end up with a lot of new residents that have no normal services nearby, who ultimately drive to get to those services," he said.

As part of the Plan, the Planning Department has proposed zoning changes that would allow residential buildings on land that is currently designated as "light industry," a catchall category that includes caterers, animal boarding facilities, taxi services, furniture production, clothing manufacturing, and even "big box" retailers. Under one option, industrial land along Mariposa between De Haro and Arkansas would become residential mixed with light industrial or commercial, as would the blocks bounded by Vermont Street, Division Street, De Haro and 16th Street, and the area west of Pennsylvania Avenue between 22nd and 23rd Streets.

Market demand for light industrial land is expected to continue to decline

over the next 25 years, mostly due to the high cost of doing business in San Francisco. As a result, even with the proposed changes, the remaining land zoned for light industry should be adequate through 2030, according to a study by Berkeley-based Economic and Planning Systems commissioned by the Planning Department.

Approximately 20,000 light industry jobs are currently on land that under the Plan could be zoned for other purposes, mainly residential. More than two-thirds of those jobs, particularly associated with publishing, audio-visual, and design, are expected to be displaced over the next quarter century regardless of changes in land use policies due to market forces.

(continued on Page 9)



# Confusing Medicare Prescription Drug Program Is Hurting America's Seniors

By Nancy Pelosi  
House Democratic Leader

Last month at the Dorothy Day Community Center, I met with some San Franciscans struggling with the confusing Republican Medicare prescription drug program. All across the country, America's seniors are paying the cost of the Republican culture of corruption with a bill written by and for the pharmaceutical industry.

Democrats across the country are holding workshops, town hall meetings, and press events in order to listen to our constituents and exchange ideas about if and how this program can be salvaged or replaced. We call this prescription drug plan "Medicare Part D, for Disaster."

Twenty-six states, more than half the states in our country, have intervened to ensure that low-income beneficiaries can obtain the drugs they need, with many states declaring public health emergencies. Democrats are fighting for emergency measures that would guarantee that all beneficiaries get their prescriptions by allowing pharmacies to bill Medicare directly during this transition period. We have also offered legislation to extend the enrollment period at least six months. As seniors wade through numerous and confusing drug plans, they should not be forced to rush into a decision just to meet an arbitrary deadline.

But if you liked the Medicare prescription drug bill, you will love what the President is doing now. In his budget, President Bush called for an increase in Medicare premiums and \$35.9 billion in cuts to Medicare over the next five years, while including a misguided plan for Association Health Plans (AHPs) and Health Savings Accounts (HSAs). AHPs would increase the cost of health care for small businesses, strip consumers of their rights, and do nothing to reduce the number of Americans without health insurance. HSAs are part of a continuing effort by the Bush Administration to leave more Americans to fend for themselves. Used in connection with high-deductible health insurance plans, they entice employers to restrict or drop health coverage for their employees.

Democrats are working to amend the Republican prescription drug plan to give Medicare the authority to negotiate for lower prescription drug prices. That is what the Department of Veterans Affairs does, and it works. We are also fighting to allow Medicare beneficiaries and other Americans to obtain prescriptions from Canada as long as safety standards are met.

But make no mistake: that does not take our eye off the ball of replacing this terrible bill with a program that works for Medicare beneficiaries.

The Medicare prescription drug bill is bad policy and bad medicine. Democrats are committed to a real Medicare prescription drug benefit plan that is clear, fair, and puts seniors first, not the pharmaceutical companies.

Contact Nancy Pelosi's S.F. District Office at 415-556-4865 or email her directly at [sf.nancy@mail.house.gov](mailto:sf.nancy@mail.house.gov)



Representative Nancy Pelosi

Democrats have fundamental principles when it comes to what a prescription drug benefit should contain. It should be a guaranteed and defined benefit, should not have huge coverage gaps, and should reduce the price that seniors pay for prescription drugs. But none of that is contained in this Medicare bill, and that is why most Democrats voted against it.

Since the Medicare prescription drug program started at the beginning of the year, tens of thousands of Medicare beneficiaries across the country have been unable to get their needed prescriptions, have faced outrageous delays, and have been over-charged. Many of the 6.2 million Americans who are enrolled in both Medicare and Medicaid are now worse off.



Editor:

I have been a teacher at Daniel Webster for nine years and was involved in the effort to avoid a merger with Starr King this year.

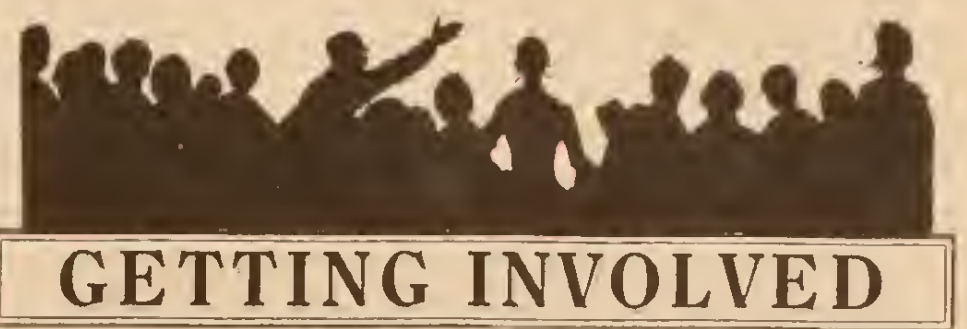
I appreciate the effort the Potrero Hill parents group made and the recognition they are receiving by your paper.

However, I was very disappointed to see that the current Daniel Webster parents and students were given no credit for the successful effort. About 30 Daniel Webster families were represented at each Board and Community meeting and many spoke out against the merger.

Additionally, more petitions were presented by a parent on behalf of over 100 parents voicing their opposition. As you mention in the article, the Potrero Hill group was given special kudos by the Board, but so was the current Daniel Webster community. Eric Mar specifically singled out our multi-lingual and multi-ethnic community for their hard work.

Everyone works very hard at Daniel Webster — staff, parents, and students — and we also deserve to be recognized. The "saving" of Webster was a group effort.

Sara Saldana  
San Francisco



Dogpatch Neighborhood Association usually meets the second Tuesday of each *even-numbered* month at 7 p.m., at 950 Tennessee Street. Next meeting: Tuesday March 14.

PHAMB (Potrero Hill Association of Merchants & Businesses) meets the second Tuesday of each month at 10 a.m. at Goat Hill Pizza, corner of Connecticut and 18th Streets. Visit [www.potrerohill.biz](http://www.potrerohill.biz). Next two meetings: March 14 & April 11.

PHPA (Potrero Hill Parents' Association) meets on the first Friday of the month in the playground behind the Potrero Hill Recreation Center at Madera and Arkansas streets at 12 noon. Next two meetings: March 3 and April 7.

Potrero Boosters Neighborhood Association meets the last Tuesday of each month at 7 p.m. (social time starting at 6:30 p.m.) in the wheelchair-accessible Game Room of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro Street. For more information visit [www.potreroboosters.org](http://www.potreroboosters.org) or call President Tony Kelly at 341-8040 or e-mail him at [president@potreroboosters.org](mailto:president@potreroboosters.org). Next two meetings: March 28 & April 25.

Potrero Hill Garden Club usually meets the last Sunday of the month at 11 a.m. for a potluck lunch in a local home or garden. Informal discussion will be held on a variety of subjects relating to organic, edible, or ornamental gardening appropriate for Potrero Hill's particular mini-climate. Call 648-6740 for details. Next meeting: March 26.

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) meets the first Thursday of each month with members of the S.F. Police Dept. to discuss issues of public concern. The Forum takes place at 7 p.m. in the community facility downstairs at 1800 Oakdale at Phelps. Refreshments served after the meeting. Next two meetings: March 2 and April 6

SFGH Rebuild Updates, neighborhood meetings hosted by S.F. General Hospital every second Wednesday, 6-8 p.m., 2789 25th Street, Rooms 2001-2003. San Francisco must rebuild its only safety net hospital and trauma center in order to meet higher seismic safety mandates. Call 206-5784 for more info. Next two meetings: March 8 & April 6.

Starr King Openspace Board of Directors meets the third Tuesday of each *odd-numbered* month at 7 p.m., Potrero Branch Library, 1616 20th Street. Next meeting: March 21. Volunteer for the Park work days continue *every* month on the third Saturday, 9 a.m.-1 p.m. Next work day: February 18 at the park, Carolina Street, south of 23rd. Mail: Starr King Park, P.O. Box 880293, S.F., CA 94188-0293. Call 810-4900 for more information.



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## From Sacramento and Your Neighborhood

by Mark Leno  
Assemblyman, 13th District

Greetings Neighbors!

One hundred years ago this spring, San Francisco was changed forever by a force of nature beyond anyone's imagination. As we recognize the centennial of that April 18th morning and all that followed, we have much to remember and from which to learn.

The words of Jack London in his "Story of an Eyewitness" provide a vivid account of the destruction San Franciscans experienced a century ago. He said, "On Wednesday morning at a quarter past five came the earthquake.

ning through May 30th with approximately 100 photographs taken 100 years ago. For more information, go to their website, [www.sfmoma.org](http://www.sfmoma.org), or call 415-357-4000.

The Legion of Honor in Lincoln Park has on display "After the Ruins, 1906 and 2006: Rephotographing the San Francisco Earthquake and Fire." Photographer Mark Klett has recreated and paired photographs depicting scenes from then and today. For more information on this exhibit, go to the Legion's website, [www.thinker.org/legion/](http://www.thinker.org/legion/), or call 415-863-3330.

Additionally, a combination of academic, business, media, and other organizations entitled the 1906 Earthquake Centennial Alliance have put together a website with information on a variety of Northern California events at [www.1906centennial.org](http://www.1906centennial.org).

While we reflect on this historic time in our City's history, it is important to remember that we continue to live with the potential for another natural disaster. It is critical that we all be ready to respond to a wide array of emergency situations. I would like to provide you with some important information that can help keep you and your family safe in the event of an unanticipated disaster.

It's important to keep in mind that you may have to go without running water, electricity, gas and telephones for at least three days, if not longer. The stores and businesses you depend on may be closed and emergency services may not be able to help. Those first three days are critically important, and that is why the City of San Francisco has a new online resource at [www.72hours.org](http://www.72hours.org), which offers simple steps that can increase our safety and can help reduce anxiety about emergencies. It can help you determine a plan of action in case of a disaster or attack and offers a detailed description of what items you should keep on hand in your emergency kit. For more information, visit the website or contact the San Francisco Office of Emergency Services and Homeland Security by phone at 415-558-2700.

We have much to learn from our City's history as well as from more recent disasters such as Hurricane Katrina in the Gulf Coast last year. Being prepared means taking responsibility, and we all share in the task of keeping our community and families safe from harm.

To contact Assemblyman Mark Leno's San Francisco District Office call 415-557-3013 or e-mail him directly at [Assemblymember.Leno@asm.ca.gov](mailto:Assemblymember.Leno@asm.ca.gov)



Assemblyman Mark Leno

A minute later the flames were leaping upward. In a dozen different quarters south of Market Street, in the working-class ghetto, and in the factories, fires started. There was no opposing the flames. There was no organization, no communication. All the cunning adjustments of a twentieth century city had been smashed by the earthquake. The streets were humped into ridges and depressions, and piled with the debris of fallen walls. The steel rails were twisted into perpendicular and horizontal angles. The telephone and telegraph systems were disrupted. And the great water-mains had burst. All the shrewd contrivances and safeguards of man had been thrown out of gear by thirty seconds' twitching of the earth-crust."

San Francisco will play host to a number of events over the next few months in honor of this moment in history. Currently, two amazing and humbling photo exhibitions are on display in our public museums.

The San Francisco Museum of Modern Art is hosting "1906 Earthquake: A Disaster in Pictures" that will be run-



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## LIBRARY NEWS

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Closed Sunday and Monday  
Tuesday: 10 am - 8 pm  
Wednesday: 12 noon - 8 pm  
Thursday: 10 am - 6 pm  
Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm  
Saturday: 1 pm - 6 pm



## ARTWORK FOR THE RENOVATED POTRERO BRANCH LIBRARY

As part of the Branch Library Improvement Art Enrichment Program, the Potrero Branch Community Artist Selection Panel has selected four semifinalists, one of whom will be selected to create artwork for the new Potrero Branch Library. The semifinalists are Seyed Alavi, Terry Hoff, Gina Telcocci, and Faye Zhang. Each has prepared a presentation board with documentation of past artwork and a brief description of preliminary art concepts for the new Potrero Branch Library. These boards will be on view at the existing Potrero Branch Library for written public comment.

You, our library users, are invited to come to the library during regular open hours to view the exhibition, which will run from Saturday, March 4 through Saturday, March 19. Forms for written public comment will be available. Completed public comment forms will be forwarded to the Potrero Branch Community Artists Selection Panel prior to their next meeting in the spring. At this next meeting the panel will select the final artist for the renovated library. For further information about the new Potrero Branch artwork process, call Judy Moran, Arts Commission Public Art Project Manager, at 415-252-2586.

ATTENTION:  
POTRERO HILL ARTISTS

It's that time of year again! The annual Potrero Hill art show will open in April at the Potrero Branch Library, and we want your art! If you live, work, or study on Potrero Hill, you are invited to participate in this non-juried exhibition, which will run from April 1 through April 29. Guidelines include the following: each artist may submit one piece (no larger than 54" x 54"). Submissions which are pictures must be sturdily framed, ready to hang with picture wire securely attached and the artist's name attached firmly to the piece. We will accept submissions of

artwork from Tuesday, March 14 through Thursday, March 30 during the library's open hours. For a full list of exhibition guidelines and more information, please call the library at 355-2822.

## AND SPEAKING OF THE ANNUAL ART SHOW...

Everyone, mark your calendars for the 51st Annual Potrero Hill Artists Exhibition, which will run from April 1 through April 29 at the library. We will have an Opening Reception on Saturday, April 1, 7 to 9 p.m., to launch the show. Please join us for this special event! Note: in preparation, the library will be closed to the public on Friday, March 31 so that library staff and volunteers can hang the art. Thank you your patience as we prepare for this annual neighborhood event.

## MARCH PROGRAMS FOR CHILDREN

Puppet show alert! Magical Moonshine Theatre will present the Native American tale "Coyote Sings," in a bilingual Spanish/English show for children of all ages on Saturday, March 18 at 4:30 p.m. Please come and join us! This program is funded by the Friends of the Library.

Here's the lineup for our regular weekly and monthly programs:

Evening storytime on Tuesdays, March 7, 21, and 28 at 7 p.m., for ages 3 through 7.

Evening films on Tuesday, March 14 at 7 p.m.: "Officer Buckle and Gloria," "The Tender Tale of Cinderella Penguin" and "Fiddle-de-de" for ages 3 and older.

Infant/toddler lapsit, for children newborn through age 3, features stories, songs, and rhymes on Thursdays, March 16, 23, and 30 at 10:30 a.m.

NOTE: for programs listed above, the programming room is not accessible by elevator. Also, please contact library staff in advance for group reservations.

Jensa Woo  
Potrero Branch Library Manager

Locals enjoy the ambience of the Potrero Hill branch.



## NOMINATIONS FOR "SUPER HERO TEACHER OF THE YEAR"

To honor the hard work and dedication of teachers everywhere, OfficeMax stores in the local area are joining TeachersCount and Marvel Entertainment to ask local middle school students to nominate their favorite teacher in the "OfficeMax Super Hero Teacher of the Year" contest.

Students in grades six through eight can nominate their teacher by writing an essay in 200 words or less describing "Why My Teacher is a Super Hero." Both the grand prize-winning teacher and the nominating student will make illustrated cameo appearances in a Marvel comic book as well as in a special-edition comic book honoring teachers. The grand prize-winning teacher will receive \$6,000 in prizes for school and personal classroom supplies and for continuing education support.

The student who nominates the winning teacher will earn a \$500 OfficeMax gift card. Five first prize-winning teachers and students will win \$100 OfficeMax gift cards and will also appear in the custom, teacher-themed comic book featuring well known superheroes in the Marvel Universe.

"Our store supports teachers and education through our MaxPerks for Teachers program and our Teacher Appreciation events," said Cheryl Royce, Territory Director of Sales at OfficeMax in the Alameda area. We encourage local students to nominate their teachers as real-life heroes who overcome difficult challenges every day to inspire education in the classroom."

Contest entry forms are available in the Office Max store at 1750 Harrison Street and completed entries may be dropped off at the same place. To be

eligible, entries must be received at the store by Friday, March 17 or mailed with a postmark no later than March 17 to TeachersCount, a nonprofit organization committed to garnering recognition and benefits for teachers.

"Marvel is delighted to create this special comic book for the dedicated men and women who truly shape the future by teaching our youth," said Robert Sabouni, vice president of Marvel Entertainment's Custom Publishing and Cover Concepts. "We have been partnering with teachers for a very long time and have always known that they are our true heroes. We couldn't think of a more appropriate way to recognize that fact."

The winning OfficeMax Super Hero Teacher of the Year will be announced on National Teachers Day, Tuesday, May 9. A judging committee comprised of representatives from OfficeMax, TeachersCount, Marvel Entertainment, the National Education Association, and the American Federation of Teachers will select the winners.

"We believe teachers can be heroes, and that's what this contest is all about — reminding the public that teachers count in a big way and deserve to be recognized," said Diana Burroughs, executive director for TeachersCount.

TeachersCount is a national nonprofit organization with two objectives: to improve the public's perception of the teaching profession using public service announcements and related initiatives to recognize the accomplishments of teachers; and to provide services, resources, and information to teachers, prospective teachers, and others interested in education and the teaching profession. For more information visit [www.teacherscount.org](http://www.teacherscount.org).

Wet Road Trip  
The Potrero Hill Garden Club  
Visits Filoli Gardens

The Potrero Hill Garden Club bares their teeth to the wind. Garden Club members at Filoli: (fromleft, clockwise) Cherry Elliott, Rick Alena, Mary Renner, Janet Carpinelli, Lorraine Vinson, Joni Eisen, Mary Lav, Joseph Schaller, and Audrey Cole

## By Janet Carpinelli

Nine hardy members of the Potrero Hill Garden Club car-pooled 30 miles south to Woodside on Sunday, February 26 for a self-guided tour of the fabulous Filoli Gardens. The 654-acre Filoli estate includes a 36,000 square foot historic house and 16 acres of formal gardens, resplendent at this time of year in azaleas, camellias, rhododendrons, and daffodils. The group concluded their excursion with a stop in the garden shop and lunch in the café.

William Bowers Bourn II and his wife Agnes, gold mine owners, lived there from 1917 until 1937, when shipping magnates Mr. and Mrs. William P. Roth bought the estate. Mrs. Roth

donated Filoli to the National Trust for Historic Preservation.

Several movies have been filmed at the location, including "Heaven Can Wait" and "The Game," starring Michael Douglas. This year marks the 30th Anniversary of Filoli Center.

The Potrero Hill Garden Club meets once a month in members' gardens to exchange growing tips and cuttings and seeds and to share a potluck brunch. To participate, you don't have to have a green thumb or a Sunset Magazine garden, just a desire to learn about what grows best in our neighborhood. For information on the club, e-mail Joni Eisen ([Joni@JoniEisen.com](mailto:Joni@JoniEisen.com)) or call 415-648-6740.



## Mayor's Office Awards Neighborhood Environmental Groups

Mayor Gavin Newsom presented the City's first Clean and Green City Summit with the Department of Public Works, the SF Clean City Coalition, and the Recreation and Park Department on February 15, 2006. The all-day event featured cleaning and greening experts, interactive workshops, and inspirational speakers from Denver and Chicago.

The day attracted 350 participants who packed Golden Gate Park's County Fair Building and discussed neighborhood beautification topics such as permeable landscaping, street parks, Community Benefit Districts, the urban forest, and the City's parks and plazas. Workshops were focused on raising standards provided by city staff and increasing partnerships with the community to clean and green San Francisco. Each workshop ended with participants making recommendations on how the city could improve its services and programs.

National speakers were Michael Kinsley of the Rocky Mountain Institute in Denver, who discussed sustainable communities, and Astrid Haryati of Chicago Mayor Daley's Office, who spoke about best greening practices in Chicago.

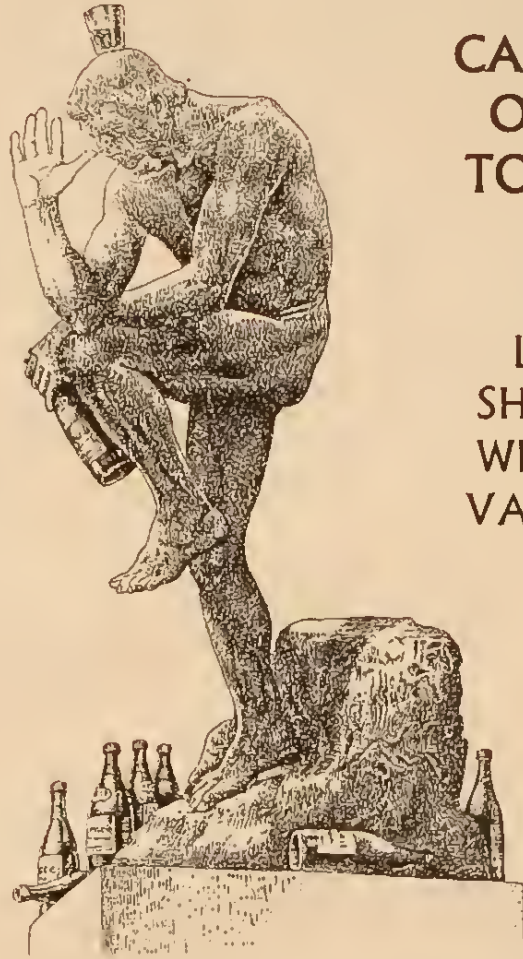
The Summit supported Mayor Newsom's Livable City Initiative. With the signing of the UN Environmental Accords in June, San Francisco has launched a major effort to make San Francisco a world leader in city greening by 2010 — making our streets and parks safer and more attractive, creating new green spaces for the enjoyment of residents and businesses, and taking meaningful steps to improve our urban environment. The summit tackled these issues and brought together for the first time city line staff

and community and civic leaders to discuss programs that can be implemented to meet these goals.

Thirteen awards were given out recognizing San Francisco's best practices. These awards exemplify the spirit of community involvement, leadership and innovation and included: The Sequoias Cleanup Committee, a group of senior citizens, for their work in abating graffiti on Geary Boulevard; St. Johns' Summer Youth Program for creating a positive avenue for youth to clean up the Mission District; Lowell and Washington high schools for their participation in the Community Clean Team program; the Visitacion Valley Greenway Project, an open space project; the San Jose/Guerrero Coalition to Save our Streets, a traffic calming project that landscaped medians in the Mission District; the Neighborhood Parks Council for their parks leadership; the Hayes Valley Neighborhood Parks Organization for their community leadership and advocacy to improve parks in Hayes Valley; PlantSF for a unique permeable sidewalk planting project; the Bayview Neighborhood Rescue Team for improving city response to challenges in the Bayview, including illegal dumping cleanup; the Golden Gate Heights Neighborhood Association for the 16th Avenue Tile Project; Diane Nutting for keeping the Castro Street Station clean; Dwayne Jones for his leadership in Arbor Day activities and in creating a unique apprenticeship program that adds to the City's greening efforts; and the Quesada Gardens Initiative for transforming a concrete median in Bayview into a blossoming garden.

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into  
Spring



It's a hopping night out on the Hill! Dance to the Lipsey Mountain Spring Band. Take in the acoustic jazz harmonies of the Hall Flowers while sampling delectable food and drink from local eateries. Bid on a fantastic array of items at the Silent Auction.

Saturday, March 11, 2006

6:30 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

Potrero Hill Neighborhood House  
953 DeHaro Street, San Francisco

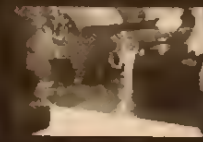
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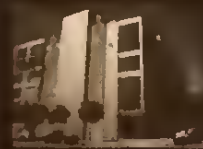
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# Pier 70 Port Commission Plan

(continued from Page 1)

development opportunities. However, after a number of unsuccessful efforts to achieve redevelopment, the Port and public have learned of the challenging conditions for such efforts, including:

The severely deteriorated historic resources throughout the Pier 70 site which increase the premium for preservation efforts and limit development sites.

The State Public Trust use criteria, interpreted by the State Lands Commission, is restrictive, constraining the number and extent of revenue uses needed to pay for clean-up, preservation, public open space and other public benefits.

The development community is reticent to pursue the Pier 70 Mixed Use Opportunity Area, identified in the Port's Waterfront Land Use Plan, without knowing the Port's entire program for the Pier 70 area.

The 150+ year history of heavy industrial use at Pier 70 has created a brownfield that requires costly environmental remediation and improvement.

Like the historic buildings, Pier 70's infrastructure is old and deteriorated and will require complete upgrade or replacement that drives up redevelopment costs. Beginning last spring, Port staff and consultants met with the Port's Central Wa-

terfront Advisory Group (CWAG) to develop goals and outlines of a new master plan for Pier 70. One of the principal objectives is to preserve the viability and long-term operation of San Francisco Drydock's ship repair industry. The plan must also address other needs and desires for Pier 70 identified by the public. The overall intent of the Pier 70 master plan is to devise a strategy that will address the public objectives expressed for the site that are also compatible with San Francisco Drydock's ship repair industry while being financially viable for the Port. Key public benefit objectives for future development of the site must:

1) Document the history of Pier 70's extraordinary, though crumbling, collection of maritime historic resources, and develop a feasible strategy for adaptive reuse and rehabilitation, consistent with the Federal Secretary of the Interior Standards;

2) Clean up hazardous materials present in structures, soil and groundwater;

3) Create significant new public access and open spaces that support active and passive recreation, and safe enjoyment of the waterfront.

The staff and consultant team will be working with planning concepts that have been previously identified as desirable ele-

ments for Pier 70. The economic/planning team will work closely with the historic preservation consultant to ensure that feasibility analysis includes a study of Pier 70's preservation priorities.


Throughout this effort, the Port will strive to reach out to the community and invite the public's participation. The CWAG, which includes community, civic, and business interest, is very supportive and committed to helping Port staff develop public outreach programs that disseminates information about the efforts. At this time the driving objective of the planning process is historic preservation. Many of the historic structures of Pier 70 are in a very fragile state. The Port has been unable to secure funds to make strategic, interim repairs that buy more time for even the key buildings. The Port expects to have the consultants under contract in the spring with the entire Master Planning effort completed in one year.

For more information about the Pier 70 Master Plan or the CWAG contact David Beaupre at the Port at david.beaupre@sfpport.com or 415-274-0539. For a great overview of Pier 70 check out CWAG member and Potrero Hill resident Ralph Wilson's web site: <http://www.pier70sf.org>.

*David Beaupre is the Port's Southern Waterfront Planner.*



The east end of Building 113, Union Iron Works Machine Shop, Pier 70 at 20th Street. Built in 1883, the original brick gable was replaced with corrugated metal after the 1906 earthquake. *Photo by Ralph Wilson*



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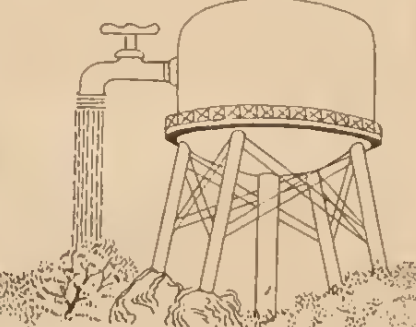
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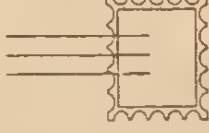
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# Power Struggles Continue on Potrero Hill

By Steven J. Moss

In recent weeks, state agencies have made tentative decisions that could determine the fate of several controversial power projects slated for Potrero Hill's Dogpatch neighborhood. California Energy Commission (CEC) staff gave preliminary approval to the San Francisco Public Utility Commission's proposal to site 150 megawatts of new power generation in that neighborhood.

As we went to press, CEC terminated Mirant's application to greatly expand the existing Potrero Power Plant with a huge 540-MW plant, a project started in 2000 that has been dormant for the past three years. Regional Water Control Board staff recommended approval of a new water permit for the existing Potrero Plant despite stiff opposition from the City and neighborhood groups.

With preliminary CEC approval, SFPUC moved a step closer to achieving its goal of siting three of the four 50-MW combustion turbines (CTs) it received as part of an energy crisis-era settlement. The CTs would be housed on a four-acre City-owned site at the foot of Potrero Hill that lies just south of 25th Street and east of Illinois Street.

The CTs are a key component of an energy plan hammered out by City officials, neighborhood activists, and environmental groups and endorsed by the California Independent System Operation (Cal-ISO), a non-profit agency responsible for ensuring electric reliability. Under the plan, new power supplies, in the form of the CTs, as well as new transmission, particularly PG&E's

Jefferson-Martin transmission line, would replace the existing inefficient and polluting Hunters Point and Potrero Power Plants.

According to an Advice Letter to the CEC, PG&E filed its intention to close the Hunters Point Plant by spring 2006, upon completion of the Jefferson-Martin line. But while the CTs are moving forward as planned, little progress has yet been made to decommission the Potrero Power Plant. Mirant has been closed mouth about what it intends to do with the Potrero Plant after the CTs are sited.

The Water Board staff's tentative approval of a new permit for the existing facility was a blow to City officials and activists, who hoped for either outright denial of the permit, which would greatly increase the cost of operating the plant, or at least a conditional short-term permit that matched hopes that the plant would be closed before too long.

Efforts to force closure of the Potrero Power Plant now shift to opposing the staff's water permit recommendation before the full Water Board, which is expected to make a final decision on May 10. In addition, neighborhood activists involved in the Central Waterfront Planning Process, underway through the Planning Department, have suggested rezoning the Potrero site for higher-value uses to create economic incentives for Mirant to voluntarily shutter the facility. In the meantime the CTs will continue to be vetted by the CEC and the public, with a final siting decision likely to be rendered before the end of the summer.



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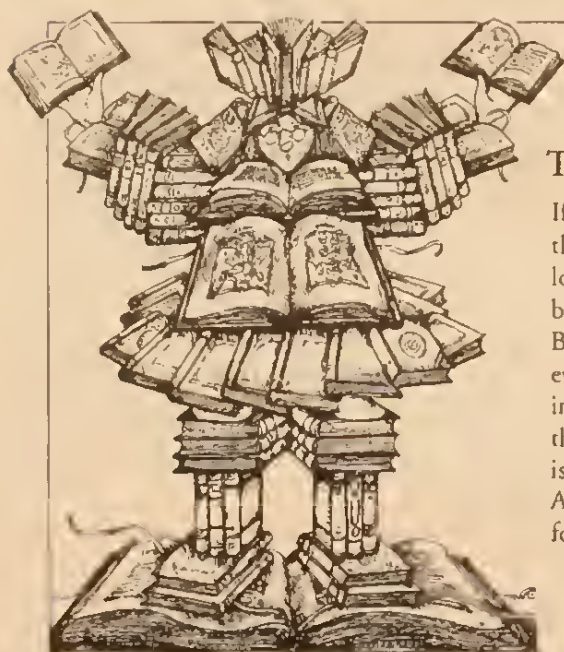
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### The View at the Library

If you are searching for a story that ran in *The Potrero View* a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue from the very first one in 1970 through 2000. Also at the library are unbound back issues from 2001 to the present. All these materials are available for use at the library.

## Bread & Roses Benefit Features First Time Musical Event

Tuesday, May 2, 2006, Bread & Roses and String Letter Publishing will present The Evening for Guitar & Strings at 7pm at the Herbst Theatre, (401 Van Ness Avenue in San Francisco) on Tuesday, May 2. This magnificent evening of world class classical, new acoustic, jazz, and tango music will benefit Bread & Roses, Guitars in the Classroom (GITC) and The String Projects.

The Evening for Guitar & Strings features GRAMMY winning classical guitarist Sharon Isbin; fingerstyle guitar innovator, Alex de Grassi; the Quartet San Francisco with Jeremy Cohen and the San Domenico Orchestra da Camera, winners of the 2005 National Orchestra Festival Competition.

The musical highlight of the evening will be the world premiere of "3 Movements for steel-string guitar, string quartet and string orchestra." According to their publisher, this is the first major work in which steel-string guitar, string quartet and string orchestra perform together.

"Those who are familiar with Bread & Roses legendary shows will be thrilled with this world-class lineup of artists and the premiere of an innovative and totally engaging concerto," said Cassandra Flipper, Executive Director for Bread & Roses.

"Everyone at String Letter Publishing is delighted to help benefit three wonderful non-profit music organizations by presenting these outstanding artists in a unique concert format," said publisher David A. Lusterman.

Bread & Roses brings hope, healing and joy through live music and the performing arts to children and adults who are isolated in Bay Area institutions. Guitars in the Classroom encourages public elementary and middle school classroom teachers to integrate music and song throughout their curricula, providing

teachers with free lessons in guitar and music education. The String Projects are university-based programs that provide hands-on training for string education majors and low-cost string education to local community children.

String Letter Publishing is a leading resource that provides musicians with information, advice, instruction, news and entertainment through music magazines, books, recordings and special events. It specializes in musical styles where stringed instruments play a major role, concentrating on genres as folk, roots, jazz, rock, classical, and other traditional and contemporary styles.

To learn more about sponsorships, which include a post-show reception with the artists, please visit [www.breadandroses.org](http://www.breadandroses.org) or call (415) 945-7120. General seating tickets (\$35 — \$125) are available through City Box Office at [www.cityboxoffice.com](http://www.cityboxoffice.com) or by phone (415) 392-4400.

Founded in 1974 by the late singer/songwriter Mimi Fariña, Bread & Roses is dedicated to uplifting the human spirit by providing free, live, quality entertainment for people living in institutions or otherwise isolated from society. Bread & Roses has produced over 11,000 live performances, touching the hearts of more than 320,000 people living in hospitals; convalescent homes; AIDS facilities; homeless and senior centers; psychiatric, rehabilitation and correctional facilities; and centers for abused and neglected children. Bread & Roses relies each year on the goodwill of more than 1,200 artists and entertainers who donate their time and talents, as well as the generosity of individuals, businesses and private foundations, in order to produce 500 shows for more than 10,000 people. For more information, visit [www.breadandroses.org](http://www.breadandroses.org).

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## Performing Arts Roundup

### PREMIERE PERFORMANCES OF NEW PASSION ORATORIO

The Passion and Death of Jesus Christ According to the Gospels will be premiered the last weekend of March in San Francisco, Los Altos and Berkeley. Written by Scott King with lyrics by King and Christopher St. John, the oratorio combines a wide range of musical styles with operatic singing and modern lyrics to bring this ancient story to life in an original way.

The San Francisco performance will be at St. Gregory's Episcopal Church, 500 DeHaro St., at 6 p.m. on Sunday, March 26.

"This wasn't a lecture, but a living, breathing thing," said Michael McDonagh in the journal, 21st Century Music, after hearing the piece while in development. "King's most original touches were his use of vernacular forms – a blues for the alto aria, 'Jesus the healer is here,' and a calypso for the bass one, 'You are the Christ' – a dramatic, touching waltz."

Sanford Dole, who conducts these performances, is music director of St. Gregory's Church and the Bay Area's well-known Cantabile Chorale. He be-

lieves that "this beautifully crafted work is a major accomplishment and a vital addition to the oratorio repertoire." Dole was a founding member of the choral group Chanticleer. Liturgical music published by St. Gregory's composers, including King, is sung in churches around the country. The four soloists are active in Bay Area choral work, three of them with the San Francisco Symphony Chorus. On the non-classical side, St. Gregory's member Jacob Slichter was the drummer for the late '90s rock band Semisonic, famous for their song, "Closing Time." And co-lyricist St. John, a longtime friend of St. Gregory's, is a member of the pop rock duo Outgrabe, which is currently being played on radio stations worldwide.

St. Gregory of Nyssa Episcopal Church in San Francisco is sponsoring these performances. This community, known for its innovative music and liturgy, has many ties to diverse music scenes.

For more information, please contact David Hurlbert at 415-983-0648.

#### WORD FOR WORD

The Z Space Studio, presents "4 Adverbs," a world premiere of a new production from Daniel Handler (author of *Lemony Snicket's Series of Unfortunate Events*), with stories taken from his forthcoming novel for adults *Adverbs*. The show opened February 24 and runs through March 12, at the Project Artaud Theater, 450 Florida St.

These four interconnected stories toss love and loss in the air in a passionate whirl of longing, landing in today's San Francisco. The first two stories, "Arguably" and "Particularly," introduce Helena, who, with her husband David has moved to San Francisco from New York and London, where she finds that costs are stratospheric. In "Naturally," Hank Hayride, unluckily stabbed in Golden Gate Park, appears as a shadow in the sun to Eddie, sitting in the park both sad and mad from her marital breakup. Hank and Eddie become lovers, or are they just ghosts? In "Wrongly," Alison, fed up at the end of a few very hard weeks, meets Steven, an angry college dropout, and they become stuck together on their way to South San Francisco, "The Industrial City."

For more information call (415) 437-6775 or visit [www.zspace.org](http://www.zspace.org).

#### DICK 'N DUBYA SHOW

The Marsh, a breeding ground for new performances, is pleased to announce that due to overwhelming ticket demand, it will be extending the run of The Dick 'n Dubya Show, A Republican Outreach Cabaret through March 31. Dubya (Amos Glick) and Dick (Ed Holmes) are on a mission to infiltrate progressive communities and convert every last liberal into a

card-carrying member of the Republican Party. A hilarious mix of political insight and obfuscation presented in song and dance, the show is directed by Bill Allard of Duck's Breath Mystery Theater. Tickets run from \$10–15 (sliding scale) and are available at [www.themarsh.org](http://www.themarsh.org) or by calling 800-838-3006.

#### FAMILY JEWELS

Theatre Rhinoceros debuts Family Jewels, a one-person show celebrating the life adventure of the Bay Area's "Best Chanteuse" (SF Bay Guardian). Veronica Klaus is an SF performer and glamorous persona who has graced Bay Areas stages in concerts, theater, and cabaret for the past 15 years. Family Jewels animates the human drama of Klaus' unique personal journey from Midwestern schoolboy to diva through song and dance. The show runs March 2–April 1 at 2926-16th Street (between Mission and South Van Ness), Wednesday–Saturday at 9 p.m. and Sunday March 12, 19 and 26 at 3 p.m. Tickets are from \$15 to \$25. Call the box office at 861-5079.

#### SPRINGTIME FOR ODC

Oberlin Dance company (ODC) announces its 35<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Spring Season, and returns to Yerba Buena Center for the Arts to hold ODC/Dance Downtown. This year's season features two world premieres by ODC Artistic Director Brenda Way and Co-Artistic Director KT Nelson, one company premiere, one premiere remake by Associate Choreographer Kimi Okada, and four repertory works. All shows are held at the Yerba Buena Center for the Arts Theater, 700 Howard Street. For more information call: 415-978-ARTS (2787)

### Unusual Performance

(continued from Page 1)

Loggins' words were brought to life by narrator Lonnie Ford while members of the Axis Dance Company performed their dance pieces.

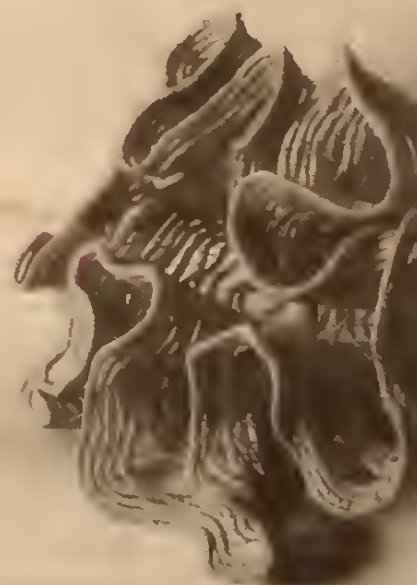
The company is headed by Artistic Director Judith Smith who joins with her dancers performing from her wheelchair. She has choreographed the piece with humor and showcases the remarkable abilities of those dancers who have "disabilities." The Axis Dance Company, established in 1987, has created an astonishing body of work with a

team of performers whose disabilities seem slight when they move the audience with their physically integrated dances.

Creativity Explored is a visual arts center in the Mission District established in 1982 that offers space where artists with disabilities create and see their works displayed and eventually sold. Both Epifano and Ford are residents of Potrero Hill. The Axis Dance Company is in residency in Oakland at the Malonga Casquelourid Center for the Arts.



### CREATIVITY EXPLORES VESSELS



Creativity Explored, a non-profit visual arts center for developmentally disabled adults, announces Vessels, a group exhibition of handmade and hand-decorated containers for the home. The gallery has a tradition of annually presenting functional artwork, and with this year's Vessels exhibition curator Douglas Morrison is challenging his artists to think outside the box in creating containers of all kinds, from vases to lunchboxes to urns. All of the artists' creations are available for sale.

Creativity Explored has been serving San Francisco's developmentally disabled

artists community for over 20 years, hosting a variety of international artists who have two things in common; some form or combination of developmental, psychiatric, and/or physical disabilities; and a common language of visual art.

Vessels will be on display March 9 – April 27 at Creativity Explored, 3245 16th Street at Guerrero. The opening Reception is Thursday, March 9 from 7–9 pm. The exhibit is open from 10 am–3 pm Monday through Friday and 1–6 pm Saturdays after the reception. For more information call 415-863-2108 or visit [www.creativityexplored.org](http://www.creativityexplored.org).

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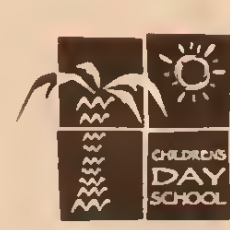


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# EARTHQUAKE PREPAREDNESS DAY

One hundred years ago, on April 18, 1906, San Francisco was shaken by a massive earthquake. Although the quake lasted less than a minute, it caused the biggest natural disaster the country had ever seen. To commemorate the events of that infamous day, the California Academy of Sciences is holding Earthquake Preparedness Day on Saturday, April 1. Visitors can learn what to do before, during, and after the next big quake. Puppet shows, fire trucks, and model-building programs will keep children entertained, while talks by geologists and firefighters will provide valuable information for the whole family.

At 11:30 a.m. and 3 p.m., join the Academy for the premiere of a new puppet show, Quake, Rattle, and Roll, that follows Doggy-Dog and friends in their quest to be earthquake-safe. From

1 - 4 p.m., members of the honorable San Francisco Fire Department will be on hand to show visitors a real fire truck and describe the challenges of their work.

At 1 p.m., join Lt. Erica Arteseros of the Fire Department as she explains what families can do to prepare for the next big quake, and at 2 p.m., join a lecture by Stephen Tobriner, Ph.D., as he explores the history of seismic engineering and architecture in San Francisco as revealed in his new book, Bracing for Disaster. Finally, at 4 p.m., Academy educator Carol Tang teaches families how to make fault models and explains how different faults move the earth.

All programs are free with museum admission. For more information call 321-8000. The museum is located at 875 Howard Street.

## Supervisor Maxwell's Liquor Store Oversight Legislation Passes its First Hurdle



Supervisor Sophie Maxwell

The Board of Supervisors approved Supervisor Maxwell's ordinance to provide greater local control and oversight over the city's liquor stores. The Board will vote on its second reading next week, and if it is approved again the item will be forwarded to the Mayor for his signature. The Board of Supervisors also approved Supervisor Maxwell's legislation to create an affordable housing Special Use District at 4800 Third Street. This legislation will also have its second reading at the Board of Supervisors next week.

### LEGISLATION INTRODUCED AT THE FEBRUARY 28 BOARD OF SUPERVISORS MEETING

(1) Supervisor Maxwell introduced her "Minimum Wage Implementation and Enforcement Ordinance," designed to (a) create a dedicated funding stream for the

city's Office of Labor Standards Enforcement (OLSE) to implement the Minimum Wage Ordinance; (b) expand OLSE's powers to enforce all provisions of California labor law; and, (c) impose interest on unpaid wages due to workers under the Minimum Wage Ordinance.

(2) Supervisor Maxwell introduced a resolution to accept and expend \$443,989 for the Office of Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention to implement the "Bayview Community Response Network."

(3) Supervisor Maxwell introduced legislation to approve an agreement between the San Francisco Public Utilities Commission and San Francisco Recycling and Disposal (SFR&D) for the installation and operation of a photovoltaic project at SFR&D's recycling facility at Pier 96.

(4) Supervisor Maxwell directed the City Attorney's Office to provide a report that details the provisions of federal, state, and local law, as well as city labor agreements, that guide or restrict the operations of the San Francisco Police Department. In particular, the report should detail how these laws or agreements address the recruitment, assignment, discipline, and oversight of the city's officers.

(5) Supervisor Maxwell requested that the Board of Supervisors meeting be closed in memory of Mary Bailin.



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# Potrero Hill History Night Tapes Available for Free Viewing

If you missed any Potrero Hill History Night over the last few years, three new VHS videotapes of those nights are now available, rental free, at the Potrero Hill Library, 1616 20th St. and the Four Star Video, 1521 18th St.

Highlights of 2003's History Night include Goat Hill Pizza's Philip DeAndrade interviews with Fred Perata (born on the hill in 1916), and Jackie Firpo ("Princess of San Francisco").

In 2004, Andrew Galvan, curator at Mission Dolores, spoke on Native American history in the Bay Area, and Ralph Wilson gave a slide presentation on Pier 70. At that program, DeAndrade interviewed Mary Law (whose family worked for generations at Union Iron Works and Bethlehem Shipyards) and Pete Loscutoff ("born in a banya").

History Night 2005 drew a crowd of almost 300 and featured a hula performance by mothers and daughters from the Hill's Na Lei Hulu I Ka Weikiu Hawaiian Dance Company, and interviews with Sisters Kathleen Healy and Lucia Lodolo of St. Teresa's (describing their work for social justice with Father Peter Sammon), and with Jon Greenberg, celebrating almost 40 years at the Potrero Hill Recreation Center.

These tapes are a fantastic way to learn more about the Hill's history, and your neighbors who made it happen.



Shipyard worker at the Union Iron Works in the 1890s. Later operated by Bethlehem Steel, the shipyards at Pier 70 on the eastern edge of Potrero Hill were some of the most important shipyards in the United States

*Photo courtesy of the San Francisco Maritime Museum Library*



A view looking northeast from Carolina Street near 20th Street in 1908.

*Photo courtesy of the Greg Gaar Collection. Scanned by Potrero Hill's Digital Pond.*



Melinda Lee

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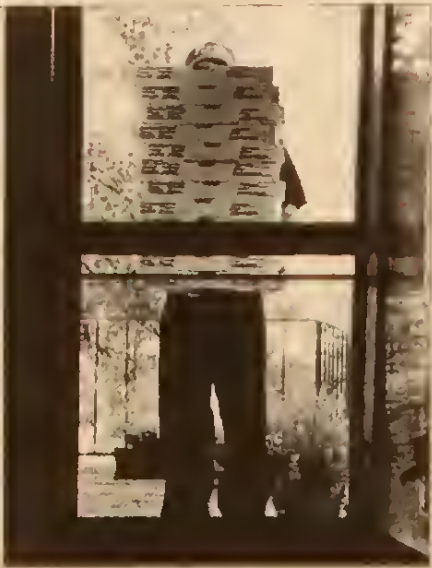


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# Let There Be Lights

By Dick Millet

Once upon a time the San Francisco Giants built a ball park at Mission Creek. After months of discussion with the Citizens of Potrero Hill, a traffic program was created. And the people said, "At least there will be traffic signals at 7th, 16th and Mississippi Streets." Three seasons came and went, but no lights could be found. So the people asked, "Why don't we have the traffic lights?" And the Giants answered, "It's up to the Mission Bay people."

So the good citizens spoke to the nice people at the Redevelopment Agency who responded, "Don't worry, the planning is almost finished and soon you will have your lights." As 2004 approached, workers could be found scurrying about, digging holes and burying electric cables. Then everything seemed to stop.

The good citizens once again begged the fine people from the City and Mission Bay to explain what was happening. Eight agencies and 26 staff continued to work on the project. Unfortunately, Mayor Newsom had not established a Blue Ribbon Traffic Signal Task Force to help guide the process using best practices and utilizing the best and brightest people.

As the 2005 New Year came and went, the good Citizens spoke of rebellion, but out of respect for the President's war on terror, they demurred. A joyous yell could be heard when the following update was released by the project manager on January 18, 2005: "The traffic signalization at 7th and 16th streets is currently under construction. The estimated construction time is six months, so we are looking at completing sometime in early summer '05." The Citizens said: "Wonderful, nothing can stop the lights now!"

But tragedy struck - HURRICANE KATRINA. Yes, on August 29, 2005 the biggest test of our country and its ability

to take care of disasters was dealt. Detail coordination by FEMA can only be described as unbelievable. And right here, at the base of Potrero Hill, we felt the responses of the Federal Government and its agencies. The Federal Transportation Administration (FTA) froze all uninstalled railroad equipment so that the devastated rail system in Mississippi and Louisiana could be rebuilt. Two trip-switches for the signal system were to be held until the trains rolled again in the South.

And the Citizens said "Huh?" and the City Agencies said, "Sorry, nothing we can do." As 2006 approached, many of the people who were involved in the project for years retired. Things started looking even darker. The Citizens prayed or wished that somehow something would happen to bring this whole matter to a happy ending.

Those efforts were rewarded when an inventory clerk at the FTA noticed a box marked "Mississippi/16th/7th Sts." Realizing how important this parcel was for the repairs in Mississippi, he sent them on their way. And the rest is history! Expect to see the lights in the second week of March. The Citizens would like to thank the people who made this story possible: Robert P. Beck, DPW; Ashur J. Yoseph, DPW; Tom Evans, DPW; Kelley Kahn, DPW; Grace Kwak, DPW; Don Miller, DPW; Lavon Jalalian, DPW; Ralph Sellers, DPW; James Chia, DPW; Larry Wong, DPW; James Chia, DPW; Edwin Lee, CCSF; Chuck Harvey, CalTrain; Ian Macavoy, CalTrain; Robert Doty, CalTrain; Darrell Maxey, CalTrain; Stephen Chao, CalTrain; Michael Jacques, CalTrain; Timothy Beedle, Catellus; Paul Baffico, Catellus; Andrea Jones, Catellus; William Kennedy, ProLogis; Patrick Feeney, ProLogis; David Knadle, ProLogis; Supervisor Sophie Maxwell; Amy Neches, SFRDA.

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Photos by Cherry Elliott and Rick Alena

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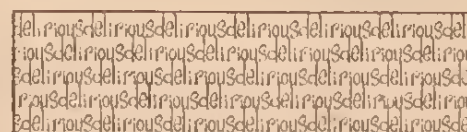
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## “Swing Into Spring” at Potrero Hill Nursery School Auction



Left to Right: Beatrice, Tali, and Annabelle; students at Potrero Hill Nursery School

Don't miss this year's "Swing into Spring" dance party hosted by the fun and eclectic parents of the Friends of Potrero Hill Nursery School. You can move to the western calypso of Lipsey Mountain Spring Band, tune into the musical delights of The Hall Flowers, enjoy swing dance lessons, sample delicious hors d'oeuvres and libations from many fine neighborhood eateries and bid on an amazing array of silent auction goodies. This blowout auction features an abundance of unique and high quality items like original art, textiles, massage, theatre, classes, vacation getaways and gift certificates to your favorite stores and restaurants.

So come join the fun at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 DeHaro Street on Saturday, March 11 from 6:30 – 10 p.m. Your good time benefits Friends of Potrero Hill Nursery School, a neighborhood preschool dedicated to cultivating healthy childhoods and serving the community for over a decade. Support your community school on the Hill and experience a night out on the town that you won't soon forget!

Tickets are \$15 in advance or \$20 at the door. For tickets or more information about Swing into Spring call Julie at 415.647.7471 or email [yogateddy@yahoo.com](mailto:yogateddy@yahoo.com) or visit [www.fophn.com](http://www.fophn.com)



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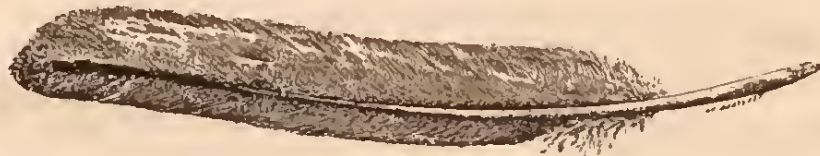
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Tuesdays at 12:45-1:45 p.m.

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# UCSF's Planned Hospital at Mission Bay: Stumbling Along

By Chris Rauber  
San Francisco Business Times

Officials at the University of California, San Francisco (UCSF) confirmed that they anticipate delaying their plans to build a women's, children's and cancer hospital at Mission Bay, citing skyrocketing construction costs.

Since 2003, projected costs for the proposed 210 bed hospital have shot up from \$700 million to \$1.2 billion, according to UCSF's Mark Laret, CEO of the UCSF Medical Center. So instead of completing the proposed Mission Bay Hospital by the end of 2012, to help meet state seismic safety standards requiring hospitals to upgrade or replace potentially unsafe acute-care facilities, UCSF instead expects to focus its immediate attention on retrofitting and expanding its 75-bed Mount Zion campus.

Laret said that "we would like to be building (at Mission Bay) much sooner than 2015, (but) it's a function of the new revenue we can generate and the rate of inflation on the expense side." Laret and other officials said no final decisions have been made and that the U.C. Regents have not yet received information about the medical center's latest proposal.

Construction costs for hospitals and other large projects such as the Bay Bridge have escalated dramatically in recent years, in large part due to mammoth demand in China and more recently due to damage caused by Hurricane Katrina and other storms in New Orleans, the Gulf Coast and Florida. In the hospital arena, costs

have soared from \$1 million per bed to \$2 million per bed or more, many experts say.

"The bottom line," Laret and David Kessler, dean of UCSF's school of medicine and vice chancellor of medical affairs, said in an article "that our plan to build a children's, women's and cancer hospital cannot be achieved in time to relieve our 2013 seismic deadline at Mount Zion." Instead, they said they've decided to push back the Mission Bay project to "meet our short-term operational needs," while keeping the longer-term Mission Bay option open.

Other Bay Area hospital projects that could be affected by soaring costs include a potential rebuild of San Francisco General Hospital, the ongoing Laguna Honda Hospital skilled-nursing facility rebuild, California Pacific Center's proposed new medical campus in San Francisco at Cathedral Hill along Van Ness Avenue, the controversial Marin General Hospital retrofit or rebuild in Marin County, and uncertain plans for a rebuild or retrofit of Alta Bates Summit Medical Center's campuses in Berkeley and Oakland.

At UCSF Medical Center, meanwhile, officials say they intend to pursue a two-track process. That will include constructing a new building or retrofitting old ones at Mount Zion, while possibly adding two operating rooms, between 25 and 75 hospital beds, additional cancer-related services and various support/infrastructure services, according to Laret.



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Michael Parenti reads on Thursday, March 2 at 7:30pm at Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. For more information call 415-282-9246.



**URBAN BIKE SAFETY.** The San Francisco Bike Coalition hosts an urban bicycle safety course for adults and children over 14. A League of American Bicyclists (LAB) Certified Instructor teaches basics of safe and enjoyably cycling, including riding in traffic, necessary equipment, crash avoidance, and legal rights and responsibilities. It includes discussion, slide shows, and film clips demonstrating good practice; the course does not require a bicycle. This first of a two-part course required for LAB's Bike Ed Road I certification and is funded by the City of San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority.

LAB course in urban bike safety held on Saturday, March 18 from 11am-3pm at Modern Times Bookstore, 888 Valencia St. For more information call 415-282-9246.



**ART AT THE GOAT.** Goat Hill Pizza is proud to announce the artwork of Martha Jones will be on display through March 31, 2006. As a professional Interior Designer, her collage images reflect her love of color and composition. Her images are creative, fun and whimsical.

Attention Artists: Goat Hill Pizza is looking for local artists to show their work at the restaurant. Please call Alicia Wong at 415-641-1140 if you are interested.

**SOLO EXHIBITION.** At In Color 2: The solo exhibition of photographer Jessamyn Lovell, March 10 – June 13, at In Color, 2475 Third St., Suite 251, S.F. 94107

Catastrophe, Crisis, and Other Family Traditions: New Work is a collection of images the artist has created over the last eight plus years of her family who still lives in rural upstate N.Y. She photographs her family on every trip she takes and the body of work keeps changing and evolving as life on the small farm changes over the years. Jessamyn's work deals with social issues such as poverty, class, and disability while focusing on personal issues as family relationships and self-identity.

The opening reception is Friday, March 10 from 6 – 9 p.m. The exhibit runs through June 13. Contact 861-3997 for more info.



#### WHAT ARE YOU DOING WITH THE KIDS THIS SUMMER?

San Francisco parents will discover over 200 exhibitors featuring loads of ideas for children and youth to do in the City and beyond when school is out this summer. The event is a free opportunity to find out about camps, classes, youth job training, volunteering, events, and city services for children 2 to 17, in all neighborhoods, and in a range of prices. Coordinated by the Department of Children, Youth and Their Families. For details visit [www.dcyf.org](http://www.dcyf.org)



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March 18, Saturday, "Presidents Breakfast" performs electro-jazz-funk-dub-soul tunes in the afternoon, 3 p.m.

March 18, Saturday: Artist of the Month reception. Photographer Michael Koller displays photos from his "Ground Breaking Unique Portrait of San Francisco.... North Beach, Castro, Potrero Hill, Bernal Heights", Reception 7 – 9 p.m.

March 23, Thursday: A very special evening of live music by Abel Mouton and Lavender Grace. Abel is a local songwriter and performer from San Francisco, while Lavender is a globe-trotting songstress, 7 – 9 p.m.

March 25, Saturday: Cory Combs returns in a rare solo performance. Come hear this well-known Bay Area musician in an intimate acoustic setting. 2 p.m.

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Muni passes are available at The Neighborhood House  
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#### PUBLIC LIBRARY EVENTS

March 11, Saturday: African American Writers Speak: Shadrach Linscomb, Frankie Holtz-Davis and Vicki L. Ward read and talk about their works.

Main Library, Lower Level, Latino/Hispanic Community Meeting Room, 100 Larkin St. (at Grove). 3:30 to 6 p.m.

Diego Rivera's Pan American Unity Mural: A Gift to City College. A presentation highlighting the historical significance of Diego Rivera's famous mural, "Marriage of the Artistic Expression of the North and of the South on this Continent. Presented by Julia Bergman and Will Maynez, who were instrumental in developing the Diego Rivera Mural Project and the Rivera Collections held in the Rosenberg Library, City College of San Francisco.

March 7, 14 & 21, Tuesdays (Hands-on) Internet 101: Learn to find information on the Web by following a link, using a search engine and entering a specific address. Mouse and keyboard skills are required.

Main Library, 5<sup>th</sup> Floor Training Center, 2-4 p.m., 100 Larkin St. (at Grove)



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Bike Safety Class (S.F. Bicycle Coalition)

Saturday, March 18, 11 a.m. – 3 p.m.

Urban skills bicycle safety course for adults and children over 14. This 'Street Skills' classroom session is the first of a two-part course which is prerequisite to the six hour 'hands-on' Road I certification. A League of American Bicyclists' (LAB) Certified Instructor will teach the basics of safe and enjoyable cycling, including riding in traffic, necessary equipment, crash avoidance, and legal rights and responsibilities. It includes a discussion, slide shows, and film clips demonstrating good practice. Bicycle not required. This is the "Day 1" course for LAB's Bike Ed Road I certification. The course is funded by the City of San Francisco Municipal Transportation Authority.



## Eastern Neighborhood Rezoning

(continued from Page 1)

The City would have to take affirmative action, as it's done to recruit biotechnology to the eastern neighborhoods, to retain this employment base, which so far it has declined to do.

The Planning Department's rezoning proposals are limited to addressing the balance of land for commercial and housing uses, according to the Department of Public Health Eastern Neighborhoods Community Health Assessment, a project that aims to predict the effects of rezoning on community health. The proposal excludes visionary planning for public spaces, schools, transit, and community services.

This concerns Potrero Hill resident Marty Wall, despite his excitement about neighborhood development. "Lack of funding and after-school programs are a big problem. When kids get of school and there are not very many parks or activities for them to take advantage of, it can cause them to be restless," he said.

Residents are also concerned about a host of other land use challenges, including a lack of affordable housing, and displacement of existing residents and businesses. But according to the Plan, "many of these concerns do not address changes in the physical environment...and therefore are properly addressed in another context."

The Eastern Neighborhoods Plan won't move forward until its environmental impact — including potential effects on visual quality, transportation, noise, air quality, and contamination from former industrial sites — is assessed sometime later this year. In the meantime, interim zoning controls — measures to prevent any zoning changes until the Plan has been adopted — have already expired. New controls will be considered by the Planning Commission later this month, but even these short-term measures are controversial, with the Potrero Hill Boosters Neighborhood Association calling them "dangerously vague and ill-considered."

One way or another, City planners and community activists hope to finally get ahead of the development deluge before the end of this year. "The world changes by the time we're ready to approve changes," the Planning Department's Ghosh said. Potrero Hill residents are hoping that these changes will be for the better.

For more information, visit the San Francisco Planning Department's website ([http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning\\_index.asp](http://www.sfgov.org/site/planning_index.asp)). The Eastern Neighborhoods Initial Study can be found at <http://www.sfgov.org/site/uploadedfiles/planning/EasternNeighborhoodsIS.pdf>

*This is the second of a series of three articles focusing on land use changes in San Francisco's eastern neighborhoods.*

## In Memory of Piero Patri

Please join us in celebrating a full life dedicated to the city of San Francisco and to his large family of colleagues, friends and relatives.

Old Federal Reserve Building,  
301 Battery St. San Francisco  
Sunday, April 9, 2006, 3:00 to 6:00 pm

Tito and Bobby Patri and family,  
Remo and Johanna Patri and family,  
Georges Rey and Cynthia Haggard,  
Patri Merker Architects

Please respond by April 2nd: 415-355-9988 ext. 10  
or [piero@wongway.net](mailto:piero@wongway.net)







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Child Support Services .....	550-3304
DPW Services .....	28-CLEAN
Fraud Detail .....	553-1521
Garbage Pickup - Oversized Items .....	330-1300
Graffiti Hot-Line .....	241-WASH
Mobile Assistance Patrol .....	431-7400
Mobile Crisis Team (Mental Health) .....	255-3610
Muni Information .....	673-6864
Parking Enforcement .....	923-6164
Police - Bayview Station .....	671-2300
Potholes .....	695-2100
Potrero Library .....	355-2822
Rent Stabilization Board .....	252-4600
Street Construction Complaints .....	554-7222
Street Lighting Problems .....	554-0730
Supervisor Sophie Maxwell .....	554-7670
Tree Problems .....	695-2162
Towed Cars .....	553-1235

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HAPPY MARCH BIRTHDAY!

Sholem Aleichem (1859), Harry Bela-fonte, Sally Burns, Black men win right to vote (1870), Luther Burbank (1849)/Arbor Day (3/7), Cesar Chavez (1927), Pat Cleaver, Ornette Coleman (1930), Helen Callagan (1929), Eric Clapron, Par Cleveland, Carol Cuenod, Vince Caboara, Nanette Dorr, Dalai Lama Flees Tibet (1959), Veva Edelson, Albert Einsrein (1879), Robert Frost (S.F., 1874), Dave Fujimoto, First Dixieland Jazz record (1917), Bryne Golec, Emma Goldman (1869), Ernesto Henandez, Lol Haley, Rebecca & Jeff Hostetler, Ides of March (3/15), International Women's Day (3/8), Italian New Year (3/21), Benito Juarez, Jack Kerouac (1922), John Lennon & Yoko Ono start 7-day bed-in against war (1969), Perer Linenthal, Della Lopipero, Lazy Moocher's Day (3/27), Matt Meblin, Gerhardous Mercator (1512), Music in Schools Month, Tom Murray, National Procrastination Week (3/6-12), Ovid (43 B.C.), Sreve Passin, Peace Corps (1961), Purim (14 Adar, 5766), Carl Reiner, Archbishop Oscar Romero assassinated (El Salvador, 1980), Maribel Rodriguez, St. Patrick's Day (3/17), Sally Seymour, Selma Civil Rights March (1965), Harriet Tubman (1913), Amerigo Vespucci (1451), Steve Voris, LaVette Virden, Vernal Equinox (3/20 @ 3:19 p.m.), Weather Underground bombs U.S. Capitol building (1971), Jane Wenham tried as a witch for talking to her car and flying (1712). Mary Wrigley.

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